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# CHRONOLOGY OF INTERNATIONAL EVENTS AND DOCUMENTS

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**ARAB LEAGUE.** 10 May—An extraordinary session of the Arab League opened in Cairo to discuss Jordan's annexation of Arab Palestine.

13 May—Message from Syrian Muslim Brotherhood (*see Syria*).

15 May—The meeting of the political committee ended in deadlock, Egypt having failed to carry her motion for the expulsion of Jordan, and Jordan having refused either to modify her attitude or to accept a compromise. A communiqué issued afterwards showed that the delegates of Syria, Saudi Arabia, and the Lebanon had supported Egypt's proposal while the representatives of Iraq and the Yemen had requested postponement in order to consult their Governments. The committee adjourned for a month.

**ARGENTINA.** 4 May—*Strikes.* A strike in the food trade involved 150,000 workers, and the meat workers' federation, with 100,000 members, called a strike for midnight. Port workers, some 20,000 in number, came out on a four-day strike, which was officially declared to be illegal.

17 May—U.S. loan (*see United States*).

**AUSTRALIA.** 10 May—*Malaya.* Mr Malcolm MacDonald, Commissioner-General in south-east Asia said, on arrival at Darwin, that the situation in Malaya had deteriorated and was 'very serious indeed'. The bandits' morale had been raised by Communist successes outside south-east Asia.

11 May—*Communism.* Mr Menzies announced that the Government were prepared to consider amendments to the Communist Party Dissolution Bill, including proper safeguards upon the power of search, the provision of appeal to the State Supreme Courts as well as to the High Court, and a provision that nothing in the Act should derogate from any power or privilege of either House of Parliament.

12 May.—*Malaya.* Mr MacDonald, after a series of meetings with Mr Menzies, Mr Fadden, the Federal Treasurer, Service Ministers, and also with Mr Chifley, told a press conference that he hoped the Sydney conference would elaborate comprehensive plans for the economic development of south-east Asia. Only thus could the spread of Communism be avoided. The great danger in Malaya lay not in internal terrorism but in the threat of Communism from outside. The British forces in Malaya were adequate to deal with the terrorist threat.

15 May—Sydney Conference (*see Commonwealth Economic Conference on the Far East*).

17 May—Mr Menzies told the House of Representatives at question time that after the conversations with Mr Malcolm Macdonald, he and senior Ministers had concluded that there was a general south-easterly movement of Communist activities in Asia which constituted a grave threat to Australia. The Government were in constant communication with other British Governments about developments.

**AUSTRIA.** 12 May—The details were issued of a Note to the Hun-

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garian Government giving a fresh list of border incidents in which Hungarian frontier guards were alleged to have interfered with Austrian citizens on the Austrian side of the frontier.

**BELGIUM.** 15 *May*—Admiral of the Fleet Lord Fraser, the British First Sea Lord, visited Brussels where he was received by M. Devèze, the Minister of Defence.

**BRITISH EAST AFRICA.** 15 *May*—Kenya police raided the offices of the East African Trade Union Congress, removed all documents, and arrested the president and general secretary on the grounds that the organization had been refused registration by the Government and should have been dissolved.

**BRITISH WEST AFRICA.** 16 *May*—A. J. Wachuku, addressing the inaugural meeting of the New Africa Party, a political organization of which he was the author and whose ultimate aim was Pan-Africanism, said that membership was open to all peoples of African descent. He denied that the party had any association with the Zikist movement. Dr Azikiwe, the Nationalist leader, presided at the meeting.

**BURMA.** 9 *May*—The Prime Minister in London. Announcement of British loan of £3,750,000 (*see Great Britain*).

**CANADA.** 6 *May*—*North Atlantic Council.* Mr Pearson, the Secretary for External Affairs, left for London. He let it be known that he believed the purposes of the Pact could only be realized if the co-operating nations made joint efforts to solve the social and economic problems which threatened the area to be defended. He maintained that exploitation of the aspects of the Pact which held out a promise of economic co-operation was essential if the attacks of Communism were to be resisted.

9 *May*—Sir Basil Brooke, the Prime Minister of Northern Ireland, arrived in Ottawa from Chicago.

10 *May*—Mr Pearson in London (*see Great Britain*).

11 *May*—*Poland.* Mr Claxton, acting Secretary of State for External Affairs, told Parliament that the Government had received a Note from Mr Milnikiel, the Polish Minister in Ottawa, stating that he had asked to be recalled from his post because, in spite of his endeavours, the principal points of controversy between Canada and Poland had not been solved, and that he would be leaving the following day. A reply had been handed to Mr Milnikiel pointing out that the Government's views had been made clear to the Polish authorities on a number of occasions. It was understood that the grievances related to the retention in Canada of Polish art treasures and to Polish charges about the recruitment of displaced persons from Europe for an alleged 'cheap labour' market in Canada.

16 *May*—Mr Pearson's speech in London (*see Great Britain*).

17 *May*—Mr Howe in London (*see Great Britain*).

CANADA (*continued*)

About 100,000 people were estimated to have been evacuated from Winnipeg as a result of serious flooding in the Red River valley.

*Shipbuilding.* Mr Chevrier, Minister of Transport, said the Government had plans for an expenditure of \$60 m. for shipbuilding during the next five years.

CHINA. 8 May—A Note was presented to the British Chargé d'Affaires in Peking protesting against the controls recently instituted by the Hong Kong Government on Chinese immigrants into the colony. (The restrictions had been imposed owing to the serious problems created by the recent rapid increase in the Hong Kong population).

9 May—Sweden. Recognition by Sweden (*see Sweden*). It was announced that an Ambassador had been appointed to Stockholm.

Mr Truman's statement on the famine in China (*see United States*).

12 May—Blockade. The British destroyer *Cossack*, patrolling off Amoy, recovered the British steamer *Ethel Moller* which had been seized by the Nationalists about ten weeks earlier when attempting to run the blockade. The Nationalist soldiers on board were disarmed.

13 May—Hong Kong. The Hong Kong Supreme Court confirmed the Communist Government's ownership of the seventy-one commercial aircraft and other assets in the colony formerly belonging to two Nationalist airlines.

15 May—It was learned that in accordance with a new measure by the People's Government to relieve the stringency of credit and the stagnation of banking following the recent stabilization and deflation the Tientsin branch of the People's Bank had signed an agreement with the private banks in Tientsin by which idle capital concentrated in the banks would be diverted to industry and other productive enterprises.

16 May—The withdrawal of Nationalist troops from the Chusan Islands, the main blockade base, 100 miles south of Shanghai, was completed. This was followed by a landing of Communist troops.

Gen. Chiang Kai-shek broadcasting from Taipeh said that Formosa had been reinforced and that any Communist invasion of the island would be completely crushed. If the Communists did not invade within three months the Nationalists would complete their preparations for a counter offensive. Within three years the Communists on the mainland would be on the run and within five years victory would be complete.

The Communists announced the capture of Tungshan Island, sixty miles south of Amoy.

Meeting between Mr Trygve Lie and Chinese Ambassador in Moscow (*see U.S.S.R.*).

17 May—It was learned that Gen. Chou En-lai had issued a statement protesting against Gen. MacArthur's release of some Japanese war criminals.

It was also learned that Peking radio had broadcast a diatribe against Gen. MacArthur's statement on the exclusive authority of the U.S.A. over the Ryukyu Islands, adding: 'We will certainly not allow the Ryukyus to be turned into a U.S. military base.'

**COMMONWEALTH ECONOMIC CONFERENCE ON SOUTH-EAST ASIA.** 15 May—A meeting of the Commonwealth Consultative committee, set up as a result of the Colombo conference in January, opened in Sydney, attended by representatives of Britain, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, India, Pakistan, and Ceylon. A message was received from Dr Malan, Prime Minister of South Africa, declaring his complete sympathy with the aims of the conference and his desire to be kept informed of its deliberations. Mr Spender, the Australian Minister of External Affairs, in his opening address stressed the importance, in the interests of the whole world, of stable conditions in south-east Asia and said that apart from immediate economic action long-term planning was essential. The level of assistance required was well beyond the capacity of the British Commonwealth but other nations, particularly the U.S.A., had indicated great interest. Lord MacDonald, head of the British delegation, also stressed the urgency of the situation and said his Government were anxious to do all they could to help. Speeches were also made by Mr Doidge (New Zealand), Mr Mayhew (Canada), Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar (India), Mr Ahmed Khan (Pakistan), and Mr J. R. Jayawardene (Ceylon).

**COUNCIL OF EUROPE.** 16 May—*United Europe Movement*. A statement was issued by the executive committee of the United Europe Movement welcoming M. Schuman's 'historic initiative' for the integration of the European coal and steel industries.

**COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS.** 4 May—The Ministers' deputies met at the request of the Soviet deputy (instead of on 22 May) to discuss the Austrian treaty, but M. Zarubin refused to report on the progress of the negotiations in Vienna on Austrian payments for relief supplies (Article 48B) and repeated his charges as to Article 9 *re* denazification in the western Zones. (This Article had been approved by the Conference many months earlier). Mr Mallett (Britain) said they were unfounded and were made with the clear intention of diverting attention from the Soviet failure to settle the Article on supplies. M. Zarubin then made a statement which Mr Mallett described as improper, irrelevant, and frivolous, and the meeting adjourned till 22 May.

**CZECHOSLOVAKIA.** 4 May—*Vatican*. Closing of the Legation in Vatican City (see *Vatican City*).

5 May—*Liberation Day*. Celebration of the fifth anniversary of liberation was attended by Mr Zorin, the Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, Marshal Bulganin, and Mr Suslov, secretary of the Russian Communist Party's central committee. Delegations also attended from China, Mongolia, Viet-Nam, Korea, and Bulgaria.

The dismissal was announced of Gen. Simon Dagac, the Army Chief of Staff.

10 May—Mr Trygve Lie arrived in Prague.

11 May—The U.S. Embassy agreed to reduce its staff by two-thirds as requested by the Czech Government.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA (*continued*)

12 May—*Britain*. A Note was delivered to the British Embassy denouncing the Anglo-Czech cultural treaty of June 1947 and requesting the immediate closing of the British Information Services and the British Council, on the grounds that the British Government had been using these institutions, as well as the B.B.C., in a campaign of defamation against the Czechoslovak Government.

An article in the Communist weekly *Tvorba* on the reorganization of the army quoted a speech by Gen. Prochazka, the Army Chief of Staff, at a meeting in the Ministry of Defence on 10 March in which he reported that the army showed not only a lack of knowledge of Soviet military science 'but even a direct distaste and resistance based on hatred towards everything Soviet. This resistance grows even into sabotage'. These saboteurs had had to be degraded and removed.

13 May—U.S. request for closure of two Consulates in the U.S.A. and for reduction of staff (*see United States*).

15 May—British Note requesting the cessation of information activities in London, and also publication of Note of 24 April on cultural relations between the two countries (*see Great Britain*).

16 May—Resignation of head of Czechoslovak delegation to the United Nations (*see U.N. Secretariat*).

Announcement of torture and death of a Yugoslav citizen in a Czech prison (*see Yugoslavia*).

EGYPT. 10 May—Arab League meeting in Cairo (*see Arab League*).

17 May—It was learned that a plan had been adopted to lower the cost of living by providing that basic foodstuffs be sold through co-operatives at cost price or less, the Government paying the difference. Half a million pounds had been voted to implement the plan.

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION. 11 May—The Council of the O.E.E.C. announced its decision to remove some of the restrictions on invisible trade and payments between member countries. This affected only payments on current account and not transfers of capital.

FINLAND. 4 May—Call up orders were delivered to the railway engine drivers in Helsinki, but were ignored, and the Government ordered the immediate conscription of 1,500 drivers and firemen of military age. Only 132 men reported at the railway yards and worked at other jobs, refusing to drive trains. Later they manned Russian troop trains to avoid breaking the agreement with the U.S.S.R.

The trade union federation ordered a general strike for 8 May unless the railwaymen's claim for higher wages was satisfied.

8 May—The railway strike ended on agreement being reached on wages rates between the employers and the trade union.

FRANCE. 4 May—*Strikes*. A strike at Clermond Ferrand involving 13,500 workers collapsed because the C.G.T. and the C.F.T.C. feared the result of a referendum arranged for that day.



7 May—Mr Acheson, the U.S. Secretary of State, arrived in Paris.

8 May—*Indo China*. Mr Acheson told the press that he and M. Schuman had had an exchange of views on the situation in Indo China and were in general agreement both as to the urgency of the situation in that area and as to the necessity for remedial action. 'We have noted the fact that the problem of meeting the threat to the security of Viet Nam, Cambodia, and Laos . . . is primarily the responsibility of France and the Government and peoples of Indo China. The United States recognizes that the solution of the Indo China problem depends both upon the restoration of security and upon the development of genuine nationalism, and that United States assistance can, and should, contribute to these major objectives. The U.S. Government, convinced that neither national independence nor democratic evolution can exist in any area dominated by Soviet imperialism, considers the situation to be such as to warrant its according economic aid and military equipment to the associated States of Indo China and to France in order to assist them in restoring stability and permitting these States to pursue their peaceful and democratic development.'

9 May—The Cabinet decided, and informed the British and German Governments, to propose that French and German coal and steel production should be placed under a single authority within an organization open to the other countries of Europe. The members of the authority would be independent persons chosen by the Governments with a representative of the United Nations attached as an observer. Reports would be submitted to the U.N. Assembly twice yearly.

A statement was issued pointing out that war came in 1939 because a united Europe had not been achieved, and 'Europe will not be made all at once, or according to a single general plan. It will be built through concrete achievements which first create a *de facto* solidarity. The gathering together of the nations of Europe requires the elimination of the age-old opposition of France and Germany'.

11 May—Opening of Foreign Ministers' Conference (see *Three-Power Conference in London*).

*Indo China*. In a letter to the Emperor Bao Dai the President of the Republic said that the Government agreed to the diplomatic representation of Viet Nam in Britain and the U.S.A.

12 May—A trainload of American arms passing through Nantes *en route* for Bordeaux was stopped and raided by between 200 and 300 youths. They withdrew in good order when police reinforcements arrived.

13 May—President Auriol, in a speech to French journalists, emphasized the importance of the rule of law as the essential principle of national cohesion, political stability, and individual freedom, and said that no one, whatever his function or pretext, had the right to put himself outside it. National solidarity must also be promoted by social justice, and the economic rebirth of France must be to the benefit of all. Individual or class selfishness was an attack against national prosperity and freedom. France needed all her material and moral strength to fulfil her mission of peace. She would persevere in the task of building

FRANCE (*continued*)

Europe in full respect of the independence of each nation and of individual freedom and dignity. None would be excluded from this unity except those who chose to exclude themselves.

Mr Shinwell, the British Minister of Defence, arrived in Paris to confer with M. Pleven, the French Defence Minister, who had just returned from a short visit to London.

14 May—M. Monnet in London (*see Great Britain*).

15 May—U.S.S.R. A Note was received from the Soviet Government in reply to a French Note of February requesting the repatriation of several hundred Alsatians and Lorrainers in Russia. It said that while all French nationals in the U.S.S.R. had been repatriated 20,000 Soviet citizens still remained in France and the French Zone of Germany and requested the reopening of the Soviet repatriation mission in Paris (which the French had closed in 1947 on the grounds that it was a centre of subversive activities).

16 May—The National Assembly, by 320 votes to 179, adopted a motion repealing the law of 1886 exiling the 'heads of families having reigned in France and their direct heirs'.

M. Reynaud in Bonn (*see Germany*).

GERMANY. 4 May—*War Prisoners*. Completion of repatriation from Russia (*see U.S.S.R.*).

5 May—*War Prisoners*. Dr Adenauer, referring in the Bundestag to the *Tass* Agency announcement, said that 1½ m. prisoners were still unaccounted for, and the House approved an appeal to the Powers by all parties except the Communists. Their attitude was denounced in Ministerial circles as neither German nor democratic. The Chancellor said the report caused horror throughout Germany and, he hoped, beyond her frontiers also. If the figures were compared with the others available, 'it can only be concluded that the fate of 1½ m. prisoners of war remains in doubt'. Nor did the report give any clue to what had become of the deported and those many Germans, especially women, who were transported to Russia by the Red Army during the occupation.

When the deputy leader of the Communist Party said the Chancellor's statement was to be regarded simply as incitement against Russia the House emptied at once. The Speaker called Herr Renner to order and then suspended the sitting.

*Eastern Germany*. No papers in the eastern Sector of Berlin printed the *Tass* report on war prisoners.

6 May—*The Saar*. The Federal Government's Note on the Saar was transmitted to the Allied High Commission.

8 May—*Rearmament*. The Allied High Commission promulgated 'the defensive law for the prevention of German rearmament'. It took effect from 1 June and followed closely the inter-Governmental agreement drawn up in Washington in April 1949. A statement by the Commission said that only the controls consistent with, and necessary to, the prevention of rearmament had been retained. The Military Security



Board would be the principal agency for carrying out the responsibility of the High Commission, but certain specific functions would be the responsibility of the German authorities.

It was understood that the Federal Government had given assurances of its full co-operation, and that the British, French, and American representatives of the Board were well satisfied with them.

*Council of Europe.* Dr Adenauer told the zonal committee of the Christian Democratic Union that the entry of the Republic into the Council of Europe was the only way to the building of a federated Europe and the safeguarding of peace.

*Berlin.* A letter was published from the Soviet authorities to the three western Commandants giving the seven conditions on which the former would agree to the holding of elections throughout all Sectors of Berlin. These included the re-introduction of the 1946 Constitution and the withdrawal of occupation troops from the city, together with the abolition of its division into Sectors.

The British Commandant stated that the Soviet terms amounted to a roundabout way of saying 'no'.

*Polish Refugees.* Six Poles belonging to the Consulate in Frankfurt, put themselves under the protection of the U.S. High Commission, together with two members of the family of one of them, as they did not intend to return to Poland.

*East Germany.* The fifth anniversary was celebrated in the Soviet Zone and East Berlin by the 'Day of Liberation', a public festival decreed by the Government. Herr Grotewohl, in an address, said Mr Acheson had announced the end of the occupation in about eighteen months, with the malicious qualification that this did not mean the withdrawal of allied troops, who would remain in Germany on a new basis as friends and defence forces of the Western Powers. He declared 'we do not need his occupation troops, not even as friends . . . We can only repeat, "Go with God, but go!"'

Gen. Chuikov's article (*see U.S.S.R.*).

9 May—French proposals for the integration of French and German coal and steel production (*see France*).

West German M.P.s in America (*see United States*).

*The Council of Europe.* The Federal Cabinet of West Germany decided unanimously to accept the invitation to join the Council of Europe as an associate. Dr Adenauer told the press that Germany must have a part in the discussions in Strasbourg. He went on to say 'it must be the aim to create a united Europe as a third Power, which can never be as great as the others (the U.S.A. and U.S.S.R.) but which would be so strong, economically and politically, that it could throw its weight into the scales for the maintenance of peace.' The French proposal (of 9 May) was a 'great-hearted step'; it was based on equality of rights, and it also covered the Saar, so that a material factor in Franco-German enmity was removed.

The Council was certainly not a completed instrument, but it was at least a hopeful beginning and it could not evolve favourably without Germany. They believed it could have but one aim: the creation of a

GERMANY (*continued*)

federated Europe. Surely it was the duty of Germans now to devote all their intellectual, moral, and economic strength to the bringing about of a united Europe.

10 May—*Prisoners of War*. An official of the Ministry of Refugees in western Germany said the Ministry had definite information that at least 300,000 of the 1,500,000 prisoners whom the Russian Government had not yet accounted for were still alive in March last. The prisoners were divided into three groups: those engaged on work of strategic importance who were under military supervision; those working in armament industries; and former members of Nazi military formations who were employed as manual labourers.

*Eastern Germany*. Herr Grotewohl proposed in a speech in Dresden that the October elections should be conducted on a joint list of candidates. He explained that this would furnish to their partners in the east the best proof of their political unity and a guarantee against the re-emergence of German aggression. He emphasized that the demand for the joint list should come not from above but from the masses of the people.

11 May—The Christian Democratic Union was formally constituted on an all-German basis at a meeting at Königswinter. Dr Adenauer was unanimously elected provisional chairman.

*Eastern Germany*. The Council of Ministers accepted a proposal by the Politburo of the Socialist Unity Party that the U.S.S.R. be asked for a reduction in reparations obligations. Herr Grotewohl was authorized to initiate negotiations with the Soviet Government.

The Council of Ministers also approved a draft law reducing the age of majority to eighteen years.

12 May—Statements by western Foreign Ministers on Berlin and prisoners of war in Russia (*see Three-Power Conference in London*).

*Western Germany*. The High Commission issued a regulation giving greater freedom in the fields of shipping and shipbuilding. The German authorities were required to keep a register of all ships owned and chartered by Germany and also under construction, and the Military Security Board retained the right to examine all shipbuilding installations and vessels under construction. The prohibition of warlike ships was retained.

*Eastern Germany*. Kurt Müller, formerly deputy chairman of the Communist Party in western Germany, who had recently been excluded from the party and had also resigned from membership of the Lower House of the Federal Republic, was arrested at the Berlin headquarters of the Socialist Unity Party after an interview with Herr Ulbricht, deputy Premier in the East German Government, on the grounds that he was 'in the service of a foreign Power and had been guilty of other criminal acts'.

*Council of Europe*. The Federal Cabinet agreed on the text of a Bill approving acceptance of the invitation to join the Council of Europe as an associate member. In a memo issued by the Government giving the reasons for and against membership, Dr Adenauer explained that the

German people were compelled by circumstances to seek the support of other Powers and that they turned inevitably to those whose ethical, economic, and social standards were akin to their own. The co-operation of Europe on a federative basis was necessary in the interests of all European countries, especially also of the Federal Republic.

13 May—*Western Germany*. Dr Adenauer, speaking at Dortmund, described the Schuman plan (of 9 May) as an act of historic significance and said the Germans would co-operate with all their strength.

14 May—*Western Germany*. Three-Power declaration (see *Three-Power Conference in London*). Dr Adenauer said in a statement that the declaration was 'satisfactory for Germany in every respect' and showed an extraordinary progress in the hitherto existing treatment of the Republic by the Allies.

Dr Schumacher, the Social Democrat leader, speaking at Neustadt, in the French Zone, said that the Schuman plan could become the 'beginning of a European development', but that care must be taken to prevent the proposal resulting in the establishment of an international cartel. He reaffirmed his party's opposition to Germany joining the Council of Europe which, he said, could be a prelude to German rearmament and would also mean the final waiving of European unity.

15 May—*Berlin*. Six members of the east German People's Police, arrested on 13 April in the U.S. Sector, were sentenced to two years imprisonment by a U.S. court on charges of wearing the uniform of a para-military organization, possessing and carrying arms, and transporting war material. The judge said there was evidence of the existence of at least forty People's Police *Bereitschaften* (alert units), police schools, and officers' training schools heavily armed with weapons formerly belonging to the German and Soviet armies and placed at their disposal by the Soviet Army. 'Startling facts' had been disclosed which might have 'world-wide repercussions'. The accused and thousands of others were 'a very real threat and menace to the peace and security of the world'.

Mr Davies on German export trade (see *Great Britain*).

16 May—*Eastern Germany*. Reduction of reparations claims (see *U.S.S.R.*).

A meeting of the Democratic *bloc* in Berlin decided to put forward lists of National Front candidates at the autumn elections.

*Berlin*. Herr Reuter announced in the City Assembly the rejection of the Soviet conditions for elections in Berlin. He said that the withdrawal of occupation troops was a problem which could only be solved on an all-German basis and in the framework of an all-German policy. A special solution was not possible for the 'island of Berlin'. He also said there could be no return to the 1946 Constitution.

West Berlin police took part in a combined exercise, supervised and controlled by a joint staff of British, French, and U.S. officers and German police officials, to test staff arrangements for Whitsuntide.

*Western Germany*. The Federal Cabinet approved the conclusions of the London conference. They also discussed, without reservations, the

GERMANY (*continued*)

French plan for the union of the French and German coal and steel industries and decided to set up a committee of experts to study it in detail.

The three High Commissioners received Dr Adenauer and informed him of the decisions of the London conference. A statement issued later said that the study group which the Foreign Ministers had agreed to set up would cover a wide field, involving *inter alia* 'the question of the termination of the state of war, pre-treaty obligations of Germany, and claims relating to Germany'.

The High Commission finally adopted law 27 on the reorganization of the coal and iron and steel industries but the decision was again, as on 14 April, taken on a majority vote, the French delegation being still opposed to the clause on property rights on the grounds, it was understood, that if the German Government nationalized the heavy industries the primary purpose of decartellization would be defeated. They agreed, however, in the interests of unity, to acknowledge the majority decision. The law, the text of which was published the following day, reproduced in essentials law No. 75 published in the British and U.S. Zones in November 1948.

M. Reynaud, the former French Prime Minister, arrived in Bonn, for unofficial discussions on the Schuman plan.

Herr Kaiser, the west German Minister for All-German Affairs, said that the U.S.S.R. had already taken more reparations from her occupation zone than she had originally claimed.

17 May—*Western Germany*. It was learned that following exchanges with the Federal Government, the High Commission had decided to revoke its provisional disapproval of the law on civil servants.

*Inter-Zonal Trade*. The Federal authorities confirmed reports indicating that western Germany owed the Soviet Zone 11 m. marks' worth of goods under the inter-zonal trade agreement.

GREAT BRITAIN. 7 May—*Communism*. 'May Day' demonstrations, organized by the London Trades Council were broken up by the police when processions were formed in defiance of the Home Office prohibition of political processions. Seventy arrests were made.

9 May—Mr Acheson arrived in London and saw Mr Bevin and the French Ambassador.

*Burma*. Thakin Nu, the Burmese Prime Minister, arrived in London. The House of Commons adopted, without a division, a motion by the Minister of State that the House welcomed the intention of the Government to combine with other Commonwealth countries in providing a loan for internal expenditure to the Government of Burma. Mr Younger said the loan was for two years and free of interest. India would contribute £1 m., Pakistan and Australia £500,000 each, and Ceylon £250,000, making £6 m. in all.

10 May—Mr Bevin and Mr Acheson continued their discussions.

*Pilgrims Dinner*. Mr Attlee, welcoming Mr Acheson at the Pilgrims dinner in London, spoke of the close ties between Britain and the U.S.A.

and said it was essential that the two countries should never be at cross purposes. He also referred to Britain's association with the Atlantic community and to the importance of the forthcoming meeting of the Council of the North Atlantic Treaty.

Mr Acheson, replying, said that the aim of the Atlantic Treaty Powers was to avert the possibility of a third world war and to assure to the free peoples of Europe a prospect of progress and stability—even, if necessary, in a divided Europe, yet striving always towards an ultimate reunification. 'I repeat, our purpose is peace, not war . . . we are not urging anyone to join any international grouping for any purpose of our own which is not supported by the recognized self-interest of every other one of the countries concerned. We have no interest in these arrangements except as a means to an end which we know to be a common end. We have no wish for war or for national slavery or for the perpetuation of a divided Europe.' They were aware of the importance of national tradition, but two factors called for accommodations which might well conflict with habitual feelings and desires. The first was the unbalance in international economic relations—an unbalance which had been partly remedied by the success of the Marshall Plan, but which demanded further some sacrifice of purely national interest. Secondly, there was the problem of western Germany. 'The re-establishment of Germany in the family of western civilization must be a co-operative enterprise in which the risks and responsibilities are shared by all.' The Germans themselves must also take their full share of responsibilities and show a spirit of understanding and restraint.

Mr Pearson, the Canadian Minister for External Affairs, who was also attending the dinner, referred in a short speech to Canada's position as an interpreter between the U.S.A. and Britain.

Mr Acheson, in a statement to the press, praised the French proposals of 9 May as a 'most important development', obviously inspired by the desire for a Franco-German *rapprochement* and for progress towards the economic integration of western Europe.

*Burma.* Mr Bevin received Thakin Nu.

11 May—Opening of Foreign Ministers' Conference (see *Three-Power Conference in London*).

Mr Attlee, in a statement to the House, welcomed the French proposals for the integration of French and German coal and steel production as a means of facilitating the entry of Germany as a free member into the European comity of nations and a notable contribution towards the solution of major European problems. The far-reaching implications of the proposals for the future economic structure of the participating countries would need careful study and the Government would approach the problem in a sympathetic spirit.

*Leeward Islands.* The Colonial Secretary announced that Lord Baldwin had resigned from the appointment of Governor and C.-in-C. of the Leeward Islands and would be succeeded by Mr Blackburne, Director of Information Services, Colonial Office.

Dr Stikker, the Netherlands Foreign Minister and Political Conciliator of the O.E.E.C., arrived in London.

GREAT BRITAIN (*continued*)

12 May—Denunciation of Anglo-Czech cultural treaty and request for closing of Information Services (*see Czechoslovakia*).

*Racial Policy.* In an exchange of letters with the Archbishop of Canterbury which was published, Mr Attlee made it clear that the Government's decision on the Seretse Khama case was not based on any change in racial policy and that they remained entirely opposed to racial discrimination in the territories for which they were responsible.

Lord Fraser in Amsterdam (*see Netherlands*).

13 May—Mr Shinwell in Paris (*see France*).

14 May—Eight persons were arrested in Liverpool during Communist anti-war demonstrations at an army parade.

M. Monnet, the French Planning Commissioner, arrived in London.

15 May—London session of North Atlantic Council (*see North Atlantic Treaty*).

Commonwealth Conference in Sydney (*see Commonwealth Economic Conference on South-East Asia*).

*Czechoslovakia.* A Note was delivered to the Czechoslovak Ambassador expressing regret at the 'unilateral action' of the Czechoslovak Government in bringing to an end the Anglo-Czech cultural convention, refuting the 'baseless accusations' directed against the British Council and the British Information Service, and requesting the closing down of the Czechoslovak Institute in London and the ending of all information activities by the Embassy. It was learned that a Note had been delivered to the Czechoslovak Government on 24 April expressing the British Government's concern at the change in the Czechoslovak attitude towards cultural relations between the two countries. Visitors to British institutes in Czechoslovakia were being intimidated by the police, and employees at these institutes were being subjected to 'discourteous and obstructive treatment'.

*British Council.* Mr Davies, Under-Secretary Foreign Office, told the House at question time that the British staff of the British Council in east European countries under Soviet influence totalled twenty-four and that it was not proposed to discontinue these services as long as it was possible to continue them.

*British Nationals in Eastern Europe.* Mr Davies, in a written Parliamentary reply on the treatment of British nationals in the U.S.S.R. and its associated countries in the past few years, said that seven employees at the British Embassy in Moscow had been interfered with, of whom three had disappeared and one had attempted suicide. In each case the Soviet reply had rejected the British assertion. There had been one such case in the Soviet Zone of Germany, five in Bulgaria, nine in Czechoslovakia, seven in Hungary, and three each in Poland and Rumania.

*Hungary.* Mr Davies also said that the Government were protesting to the Hungarian Government about the circumstances of the arrest of Mr Lamerton, the British business man who had disappeared in Budapest in April and who had since returned to Britain.

Mr Davies told the House that no foreign journalists had been



expelled from Britain following the example set by certain east European countries. The Government preferred to maintain the freedom of the press.

*Germany.* Mr Davies denied that German exports were a serious menace to the British export trade or that prices in Germany were being kept down by artificial or unfair means. There was no justification for action by the High Commission to interfere with the German export trade. Indeed it was the chief concern of the High Commission to diminish German dependency on external aid for which an increase of exports was necessary.

Lord Fraser in Brussels (*see Belgium*).

*France.* M. Monnet met Mr McCloy, the U.S. High Commissioner in Germany, and Mr Harriman, and later visited the Treasury where he met Sir Stafford Cripps and Sir Edwin Plowden, the British chief planning officer, for discussions on the French plan to bring European heavy industries under a single authority. He also met representatives of the Benelux countries.

16 May—*France.* M. Monnet had further conferences with Ministers and experts of European Governments affected by the French Government's initiative.

Mr Attlee had a meeting with Mr Bevin, Mr Acheson, and Mr Pearson, the Canadian Foreign Minister.

*Canada.* Mr Pearson, in a speech to the Canada Club, said that Canadians were a little worried at times because the U.K. seemed to be putting a high fence around the sterling pool with terms of admission which were difficult for them to meet. Canada had to maintain a difficult position in view of the dual relationship of her financial and economic structure to both the dollar and the pound, and she was forced to concentrate on both simultaneously. The U.K. market was of great importance to Canada and they would use all reasonable means to secure and maintain access to it. Since the war they had been able to finance a large part of their exports to the U.K. through credits. But the ability to do this depended largely on their financial relations with the U.S.A. They needed certain essential commodities from the U.S.A. and were vigorously expanding the market for their goods in the U.S.A. which was now their best customer. But they hoped that circumstances would not force them to make a choice of markets between the U.K. and the U.S.A. Politically also there was a dualism in their position, for while belonging to the North American continent they were also part of the British Commonwealth. But it was not true to say they were going through a stage of dominion status prior to becoming a U.S. satellite.

17 May—The Canadian Minister of Trade and Commerce, Mr Howe, arrived in London.

GREECE. 9 May—*Yugoslavia.* It was announced that the Government had agreed with Yugoslavia on a plan to restore normal relations, and had decided on an exchange of Ministers.

13 May—Report of failure to repatriate abducted children (*see International Red Cross*).

GREECE (*continued*)

15 May—*Yugoslavia*. Gen. Plastiras, Prime Minister, and Mr. Sehovic, the Yugoslav Chargé d'Affaires, agreed at a meeting to set up a joint commission to discuss linking the railway, postal, and telegraphic communications of the two countries. They also decided to set up a joint committee to study the question of creating a Yugoslav free zone in Salonika.

16 May—Mr Kardelj on Greek-Yugoslav relations (*see Yugoslavia*).

HUNGARY. 9 May—*Foreign Interests*. The Foreign Ministry, replying to British Notes, stated that compensation for British interests affected by nationalization decrees could be paid only if there were a trade agreement between the two countries.

10 May—The Supreme Court heard and rejected the appeals of Mr Sanders and Mr Vogeler, the British and U.S. business men convicted on 21 February. The appeals of the five Hungarians sentenced at the same trial were also rejected and the two chief accused, I. Geiger, and Z. Rado were later executed.

12 May—Austrian Note on frontier incidents (*see Austria*).

15 May—Protest *re* arrest of Mr Lamerton (*see Great Britain*).

INDIA. 4 May—Mr Nehru, the Premier, addressing a joint meeting of the Indian and Pakistani press, said the two countries ought to live together as the closest friends and allies in a world torn by mistrust. 'It is inevitable', he went on 'that within the next few years India and Pakistan will not merely be two countries friendly to each other, but will come far closer to each other than friendly countries ordinarily are.'

5 May—*Bengal Refugees*. Figures published of estimated movements of refugees between East and West Bengal showed that up to the end of April 1½ m. Hindus left East Bengal, and 1 m. Muslims arrived there. In the week ended 29 April about 13,000 Hindus arrived in West Bengal each day, and some 5,000 Muslims left. On the other hand between 3,000 and 4,000 Hindus were returning to East Bengal each day, and many Muslims were returning to West Bengal and Assam.

*Government Changes*. Owing to the resignations of Mr Mookerjee and Mr Neogy, the Bengal Ministers who objected to the Delhi Agreement on minority rights, new Ministers of Industry and of Commerce were appointed. They were Mr Mehtab, the Chief Minister of Orissa State, and Mr K. M. Munshi, formerly Home Minister of Bombay.

14 May—*Portugal*. Mgr Castilho Noronha, the representative of Portuguese India in the Portuguese Parliament, said in Bombay on his return from Lisbon that in the near future Portugal would grant autonomy to her Indian possessions in their fiscal and administrative affairs. The National Assembly in Lisbon had already been vested with the power to revise the Constitution and arrangements were being made to modify the Colonial Act.

Direct railway traffic was resumed between Amritsar and Lahore, nearly eight months after the trade deadlock resulting from currency differences between India and Pakistan.

Pandit Nehru on Kashmir (*see Kashmir*).

15 May—It was learned that the Government had informed Pakistan of their readiness to take back all Muslims who had left India for western Pakistan since 1 March and to restore their property to them on their return. They had also instructed the deputy High Commissioners in western Pakistan to grant temporary permits to Pakistanis who wished to visit India on private business.

16 May—*Government Changes.* Mr Rajagopalachari, the last Governor-General, and Sri Prakasa, the Governor of Assam, were appointed members of the Cabinet.

INDO CHINA. 7 May—*New Cabinet.* Tran Van Huu formed a Government of Viet Nam, taking the portfolios of Foreign Affairs and Defence himself. It was understood that their first task would be to form a national army.

10 May—Tran van Huu, speaking at the installation of his Cabinet, said the Government would be guided by five main principles: organizing the internal structure of the State and establishing its representation abroad; re-establishment of peace; creation of an army; reconstruction of the national patrimony; and economic recovery and social progress. Order and legality must be respected and the sovereignty of the Government recognized by all.

11 May—It was announced that French naval forces had seized a junk transporting a Chinese Communist officer and twenty-two other ranks in the Bay of Along, on the Tongking coast, during a combined operation which resulted in clearing the coal mining area of Dong Trieu of Viet Minh forces.

A French naval sloop left Saigon to investigate reports that a small fleet of armed junks had appeared off the southern Paracel Islands, which were claimed by the Chinese Communist Government.

The Emperor Bao Dai reaffirmed the Viet Nameese claim to the Paracel Islands. Speaking in Saigon he also expressed his gratitude to the U.S.A. for the help it had promised.

French agreement to diplomatic representation of Viet Nam in Britain and the U.S.A. (*see France*).

14 May—It was learned that the Viet Nam Government had appointed diplomatic representatives to the U.S.A., Britain, the Vatican, Thailand, Cambodia, and Laos, and that they proposed to send a 'mission of inquiry' to India with the hope of improving relations between the two countries.

It was also learned that the Government had decided to set up a committee of action against terrorists and to adopt measures similar to those in force in Malaya.

15 May—Viet Minh forces attacked the prison camp at Thu Duc, six miles north of Saigon. About fifty prisoners escaped but others were shot down by guards.

INDONESIA. 8 May—A new Government was formed in the State of East Indonesia under Mr Putuhena. Following the suppression of the

INDONESIA (*continued*)

Macassar revolt representatives of the central Government in Jakarta and the three remaining constituent States (the Indonesian Republic, East Indonesia, and East Sumatra) reached an agreement to set up a military constitution in Indonesia.

16 *May*—It was learned that fighting had been proceeding in Macassar and Jakarta between members of the Indonesian and Netherlands East Indies armies.

A spokesman of the Ministry of Defence said that the Navy was blockading Amboina Island and that preparations were being made for an attack on the 'Republic of the South Moluccas'.

17 *May*—A Foreign Office spokesman said that the Government refused to take sides in the cold war.

INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS. 13 *May*—*Greece*. The executive committee of the League of Red Cross Societies announced that it had failed to arrange the repatriation of any of the estimated 20,000 Greek children from eastern Europe owing to the lack of social responsibility on the part of the Governments concerned.

IRAQ. 17 *May*—A large area of Baghdad was flooded after a breach in the Tigris bund.

ITALY. 11 *May*—A court at Viterbo, after a seventy-day trial, sentenced 116 Communists to prison terms ranging from four months to twenty-eight years on charges of violence in riots following the attempted assassination of Signor Togliatti, the Communist leader, in 1948. Ten defendants were acquitted.

13 *May*—*Economic Policy*. The Cabinet took a step towards restoring normal conditions in industry by approving a Bill winding up the Fund for Mechanical Industry (F.I.M.) which since 1947 had been used for subsidizing purposes. They also approved an allocation of 20,000 lire for loans to industrial undertakings which intended to purchase, in Italy and abroad, machinery and equipment for reconstruction.

14 *May*—Marshal Tito's broadcast on Trieste (*see Yugoslavia*).

15 *May*—Representatives of the General Confederation of Labour and of the Federation of Mechanical Workers and the Factory Councils League decided at a meeting in Milan to resist any attempts to close the undertakings affected by the Government's decision to wind up the F.I.M.

16 *May*—*Strikes*. A four-hour general strike was held in Sesto San Giovanni, an industrial suburb of Milan, in support of the workers of the Marelli works who had been occupying and running the factory since they were locked out at the end of March.

17 *May*—*Reconstruction*. An Exhibition of National Reconstruction which was opened in Rome by Signor de Gasperi gave evidence of the successful efforts during the past five years to repair war damage. Enormous progress had been made in reconstructing the railways, 4,000 miles of which had been damaged; 18,000 miles of roads had been

rebuilt, together with 185,000 public buildings and 3 m. rooms. Most of the hydro-electric works had been restored and new plants had been built. The merchant navy, reduced to 320,000 tons in 1945 had been increased to 2,500,000 tons.

*Land Reform.* One person was killed and two wounded in a clash with the police in Mantua when farm workers demonstrated against the alleged resistance of property owners to a land distribution which had already been agreed upon. Disorders were also reported at Mesola, near Ferrara.

A section of the main Rome-Turin railway line was found to have been sabotaged in the night. The line was repaired before the first train arrived.

**JAPAN.** 4 *May*—*U.S. Bases.* Gen. MacArthur said he could only regard the Russian inquiries about bases in the Ryukyu Islands and at Yokosuka as 'a vehicle of propaganda or a provocative impertinence'. The Islands did not fall into the jurisdiction of international control, being entirely subject to the direction of the U.S.A., which was free to take such measures on them as it deemed advisable. Japan was completely unarmed, and had no forces. As to the U.S. and British bases, 'they are, and will continue to be, as long as the occupation lasts, maintained in a condition of such adequacy and preparedness as will ensure the fullest security, operational efficiency, and complete readiness for any eventuality'. The military details affecting them concerned only their commanders. Conditions in the future could be determined only by a peace treaty.

5 *May*—*Peace Treaty.* The Prime Minister, addressing a Liberal Party meeting, attacked the advocates of a peace with all the belligerents and advocated a separate peace with the U.S.A. and Great Britain.

10 *May*—*Prisoners of War.* At a meeting of the Allied Council not attended by the Soviet delegate, Mr Seebald, the U.S. member, said that Gen. MacArthur had forwarded to the United Nations two Japanese parliamentary resolutions requesting the acceleration of the repatriation of prisoners from Russia.

12 *May*—*Soviet Note to U.S.A. on war criminals (see United States).*

17 *May*—*Cotton.* The British and U.S. cotton missions ended their conferences with leaders of the Japanese textile industries and issued a statement declaring that 'something important and lasting' had been accomplished. It was learned that agreement had been reached by all parties that higher prices should be charged for Japanese cotton exports.

**KASHMIR.** 14 *May*—Pandit Nehru, speaking at Srinagar, reaffirmed that India would stand by the decision of the plebiscite.

**MALAYA.** 4 *May*—Troops killed or captured eighteen of the body-guard of a notorious bandit leader on the Kajang rubber estate in Selangor.

5 *May*—An Australian police officer was killed when attacking a bandit camp in Kedah.

MALAYA (*continued*)

8 May—Bandits murdered Mr Cockram, assistant manager of the Telemong estate in the Bentung area of Pahang.

10 May—A police officer stated that the notorious Kajang gang of bandits operating in Selangor had been 'definitely broken up'.

11 May—Statement by Mr MacDonald (*see Australia*).

Three British soldiers were wounded in an ambush in Pahang. A village north of Kuala Lumpur was raided and two Chinese were murdered.

12 May—Mr MacDonald's statements (*see Australia*).

An emergency regulation was issued providing the death penalty for carrying explosives in the colony or for consorting with persons carrying explosives.

13 May—Six police were killed and four wounded when a party of thirty were attacked by bandits just over the Siamese border.

14 May—A Chinese woman was murdered in the Ipoh area of Perak. Two special constables were killed and two wounded in ambushes in the Tapah area. In Pahang two Malay policemen were killed and a third injured. Police in Negri Sembilan killed two bandits and captured a third.

15 May—It was learned that Sir William Jenkin, retired senior officer of the Indian Intelligence Service, had been appointed for a year to advise the Criminal Investigation Department of the Federation police.

17 May—It was learned that the emergency regulations had been amended to provide that detainees might now be held for three years instead of two. (Detainees now numbered over 7,000).

Bandits killed the Indian manager of an estate and a Malay special constable in Perak.

NETHERLANDS. 12 May—The British First Sea Lord, Admiral of the Fleet Lord Fraser, arrived in Amsterdam and was received by Queen Juliana.

NEW ZEALAND. 5 May—*Food Subsidies*. The Prime Minister, Mr Holland, announced a reduction of subsidies estimated to save £7 m. in 1950-51 and £12 m. in a full year. He said it was necessary to check rising expenditure, and extra money could not be found from taxation, which was already too high, nor by further inflation. The only sound way to secure stability was by economies.

NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY. 15 May—The fourth session of the North Atlantic Council opened in London attended by the Foreign Ministers of the twelve member States.

NORTHERN IRELAND. 9 May—Sir Basil Brooke in Ottawa (*see Canada*).

17 May—*Budget*. Presenting his Budget to Parliament Major Sinclair, Minister of Finance, announced a reduction of £4 m. in Ulster's Imperial contribution, which would now be £16 m. Total revenue in



the coming year was estimated at £63,577,000 and expenditure at £47,904,000.

PAKISTAN. 6 May—The Premier in New York (*see United States*).

7 May—*Refugees*. It was stated in Karachi that since the signature of the Delhi Agreement of 8 April the number of Muslims arriving in West Pakistan from India had increased, and the daily average was about 3,000. Most of them at once became a charge on the public and medical services, and in Karachi some 150,000 were stated to be living in the streets and in open spaces. The city's population was estimated at 1,350,000, or a million more than in August 1947. (The movement into West Pakistan was not dealt with in the Delhi Accord).

8 May—*Kashmir*. The Foreign Minister told a British press correspondent that the only solution to the Kashmir dispute lay in the implementation of the decision reached by the United Nations, i.e. demilitarization, followed by a plebiscite in the whole of Jammu and Kashmir, to be conducted under the supervision of Admiral Nimitz, the U.N. plebiscite administrator. The Government would not entertain any other proposal.

PALESTINE. 8 May—*Israel*. The Government's reply to the U.N. Conciliation Commission's memo of 29 March was published. It said the Commission's assistance would be welcomed only on the understanding that 'it will act as a harmonizing agent with a view to inducing a friendly atmosphere and extending its good offices to the parties with their consent'. It also asked which Arab States were ready to negotiate with it.

10 May—*Budget*. Mr Kaplan, the Israeli Finance Minister, presented to Parliament proposals for an ordinary Budget of £P.56 m., 35 per cent greater than in 1949, and an extraordinary Budget of £P.65 m. for development, including the absorption of 150,000 to 180,000 immigrants, housing, agriculture, and the establishment of basic industries such as chemicals and metals. Explaining the increase in the ordinary Budget he said that the population had increased by nearly 200,000 in the last financial year and that 165,000 of the newcomers had been absorbed in the national economy. No new taxes were proposed but higher receipts were expected from the old ones. Investments in the past two years had reached £120 m. and the national income in 1949 was £240 m., but there was a wide gap in the 1949 trade balance—£87 m. of imports compared with £10 m. of exports. If output were not increased shortly it would be necessary to introduce 'the most extreme austerity'. He also proposed that £10 m.—nearly one-fifth of the revenue—should be spent on defence. (This figure did not represent total expenditure on the armed services, which still had a secret Budget.)

17 May—An R.A.F. flying boat was forced down by Israeli fighter aircraft after flying over Israeli territory without permission. After an interrogation, during which it was made clear that the trespass was due to a navigational error, the crew and aircraft were released.

PERSIA. 15 May—Soviet protest *re* oil surveys in frontier areas (*see U.S.S.R.*).

16 May—Refutation of Soviet allegation *re* U.S. photographic survey on Persian-Soviet border (*see United States*).

POLAND. 8 May—*Refugees*. Protection by the United States sought by Poles (*see Germany*).

11 May—Recall of Minister in Ottawa (*see Canada*).

PORTUGAL. 14 May—Statement on modifications in the Colonial Act *re* possessions in India (*see India*).

RHODESIA, SOUTHERN. 10 May—Mr Beadle, Minister for Internal Affairs, told Parliament that the Government could not relax the immigration restrictions. The rate of immigration had recently increased and the social services were threatened with a breakdown.

RUMANIA. 17 May—*U.S.A.* It was learned that the Government had asked the U.S.A. to cut its Legation staff to ten to correspond with the numbers of the Rumanian Legation in Washington and on the grounds that many of the staff had been engaged in spying.

SOUTH AFRICA. 4 May—*The Protectorates*. The Premier stated in the Senate that if the British Protectorates were not transferred to the Union within a reasonable time there would be pressure among the South Africans to treat the natives of those territories as foreign natives, and so not admit them to the Union to work or to send their products to the Union markets.

5 May—*Communism*. Mr Swart, Minister of Justice, introduced the Unlawful Associations Bill to Parliament, which would declare illegal any organization professing Communism; advocating a one-party State; seeking to effect political or economic change by violence or disorder, or in collaboration with foreign Powers; or promoting the interests of any foreign Government or of 'all persons of a particular class, including persons of that class outside South Africa'. The Bill provided the Minister with wide powers of entry, search and interrogation in the case of suspicion of unlawful activities. Those suspected could be debarred from membership of Parliament or of other public bodies. Newspapers might be banned for similar reasons. Organizations or newspapers that were declared unlawful could contest the matter in the courts.

14 May—*Communism*. It was learned that the United Party had announced its opposition to the Unlawful Organizations Bill in its existing form on the grounds that it threatened the fundamental rights of citizens and provided dictatorial powers to the Minister of Justice.

SOUTH PACIFIC PEOPLE'S CONFERENCE. 5 May—A conference at Suva, Fiji, of native peoples of the South Pacific area ended after, in the words of the chairman (the Governor of Fiji) producing

overwhelming evidence of the fraternal regard among the Pacific peoples in spite of obvious, but often superficial, differences. The delegates had carried away a deep solid faith in the future of these peoples, and had given convincing evidence of their hunger for education and betterments.

**SPAIN. 17 May—U.S.A.** Mr Culbertson, the U.S. Chargé d'Affaires, speaking at a dinner given by the American Chamber of Commerce in Barcelona expressed regret that in the past year trade between the U.S.A. and Spain had fallen to the pre-1947 level and indicated that this was largely the fault of the Spanish Government. There had been little response to the U.S. offers of dollar loans, and American capital was evidently not attractive to Spain judging by existing legislation, which involved the blocking of foreign investments and the non-payment of royalties outside the country. He also said that certain official complaints of discrimination against Spain were unfounded since Marshall aid was no more applicable in her case than in that of the South American republics, with whom the U.S.A. maintained good neighbourly relations.

**SWEDEN. 6 May—Seized Trawlers.** A Note was transmitted to the Soviet Government protesting against the detention of two fishing vessels in February and the pursuit of a third named *Larex* as far as Swedish waters. (It was established that the two vessels were detained more than twelve miles from the Russian coast).

**9 May—China.** The Government recognized the Chinese People's Republic and appointed an Ambassador in Peking.

**SYRIA. 13 May—**The Syrian Muslim Brotherhood sent a telegram to the political committee of the Arab League stating that the Syrian people wanted the League to resist American pressure (in favour of Israel) and to proclaim Arab adhesion to the eastern *bloc* if this pressure continued.

**THREE-POWER CONFERENCE IN LONDON. 11 May—**A conference opened in London of the Foreign Ministers of Britain, the U.S.A., and France—Mr Bevin, Mr Acheson, and M. Schuman. The Ministers 'took note of the great progress which has been achieved in the last two years in the realm of economic recovery . . . and in the development of a co-ordinated defence system. It is recognized that, in the present world situation, the preservation of peace requires new efforts of co-operation in all fields, particularly in the building up of an effective defence through the North Atlantic Treaty and the strengthening of the economic foundations of the western Powers to support these efforts'.

**12 May—**The Ministers, whose meeting was also attended by the three High Commissioners in Germany, discussed the German problem, including the French initiative of 9 May, and also the deadlock over the Austrian Treaty. Two declarations were issued afterwards, the

THREE-POWER CONFERENCE IN LONDON (*continued*)

first reaffirming the determination of the western Powers to continue to uphold their rights in Berlin, to protect the democratic rights of the inhabitants, and to co-operate with the German authorities to improve the economic position of the three western Sectors. They would also 'continue to seek the reunification of the city in free elections in order that Berlin may take its due place in a free and united Germany'. The second declaration dealing with the question of German prisoners of war in Russia noted with 'deep concern' the Soviet statement of 4 May affirming that repatriation had been completed, which 'stood in sharp contradiction with the fact that a very large number of German families are still awaiting the return of their relatives taken prisoner, of whom they have had direct news during their captivity in the Soviet Union'. The Ministers had also noted the 'inconsistencies among the scant data' furnished by the U.S.S.R. about the fate of prisoners-of-war and deported civilians from Germany, and also from the former German occupied territories and Japan which showed a 'grave disregard for human rights'. They had agreed to take all possible steps to obtain information on the subject and to bring about repatriation in the largest possible number of cases.

13 May—At the end of the final meeting, which was attended by representatives of the Benelux countries, a statement was issued declaring that the main purpose of the discussions had been directed towards 'reducing the risks of war and establishing the conditions of a lasting peace. In the view of the Ministers this requires a closer co-ordination in the employment of their joint resources to underpin their economies in such a manner as to permit the full maintenance of their social and material standards as well as the adequate development of the necessary defence measures'. The strength of the free world would never be used for aggressive purposes.

The Ministers had agreed upon the main lines of their policy in all parts of the world and had reaffirmed their desire for an early Austrian Treaty. They had surveyed the situation in south-east Asia and had expressed the firm intention of encouraging and supporting the new Governments there. In view of the economic under-development of the region as a whole they considered it desirable that all the Governments in the area should collaborate to raise the general standard of living. They had agreed to the seriousness of the situation and decided *inter alia* to co-ordinate measures to prevent the smuggling of arms into the area and to take every opportunity of exposing the aims and methods of Communist imperialism.

The three Governments were basically in agreement as to the importance of the political development of the peoples of Africa, and the achievement of improved economic and social conditions. The Ministers had recognized the need for developing the existing co-operation between the French, British, and other African Powers and of establishing close co-operation between these countries and the U.S.A. to achieve this end.

A second statement, on the problem of over-population in certain

countries of western Europe—described as 'one of the most important elements in the difficulties and disequilibrium of the world'—said that the Ministers had agreed to appoint experts to review the various activities in the field of migration being undertaken by the I.L.O., the United Nations, and the O.E.E.C., and to consult with the experts of other interested Governments.

14 May—A statement on Germany issued after being communicated to Dr Adenauer said that the allies were resolved to pursue their declared aim that Germany should 're-enter progressively the community of free peoples of Europe. When that situation has been fully reached she would be liberated from controls to which she is still subject, and accorded her sovereignty to the maximum extent compatible with the basis of the occupation regime. This regime is imposed on the Germans and on the allies by the consequences of the division of Germany and of the international position; until this situation is modified it must be retained in accordance with the common interests of Germany and of Europe.

The western Powers desire to see the pace of progress towards this end as rapid as possible. Progress will depend upon the degree of confident and frank co-operation displayed by the Government and the people of the Federal Republic. In the first place the pace will be determined by the extent to which the Allies can be satisfied that their own security is safeguarded by the development in Germany of a desire for peace and friendly association with themselves. In the second place the pace will be set by the rate at which Germany advances towards a condition in which true democracy governs and the just liberties of the individual are assured. Therefore, the western Powers wish to emphasize most strongly that the natural desire of the German people to secure relaxation of controls and the restoration of the sovereignty of their country depends for its satisfaction only upon the efforts of the German people themselves and of their Government. They earnestly trust that the Federal Republic will fulfil in this respect the hopes placed in the wisdom of her people and her leaders. Meanwhile the High Commissioners, in exercising the powers reserved to them, will continue to place their main emphasis upon essential elements of security and fundamental democratic issues of real importance.

In view of the continued refusal of the Soviet Government to permit the inhabitants of their Zone of occupation to rejoin their fellow-countrymen in a democratic and United Germany, it has not been possible, and will not be as long as this Soviet policy persists, to proceed to the conclusion of a treaty of peace with Germany. The Ministers accordingly agreed to set up a study group in London to undertake the necessary preparatory work to enable the Occupation Statute to be reviewed at the appointed time and to make recommendations for eliminating the major practical inconveniences arising in the countries concerned from the state of war, on the understanding that in the present situation of Europe supreme authority must remain in the hands of the Allied Powers.

While retaining the framework outlined above, the Allies intend to

THREE-POWER CONFERENCE IN LONDON (*continued*)

give Germany the possibility of developing freely, while at the same time, safeguarding the possibility of peaceful reunification of Germany, which remains the ultimate object of their policy. The three Governments reaffirm the offers which were formulated during the meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers last June, and express the hope that the necessary conditions for the establishment of a Government for all Germany may be achieved which would guarantee to all Germans respect for their laws and fundamental liberties, and they have agreed upon the conditions which are necessary, in their opinion, for this purpose.'

**TURKEY.** 14 *May—Elections.* A general election was held resulting in an overwhelming defeat for the Republican People's Party which had been in power continuously since 1923. They gained 51 seats, the Democrats 434, and the National Party 1. The President of the Grand National Assembly, Mr Sarajoglu, and all the Ministers in the late Cabinet, except Mr Gunultay, the Prime Minister, lost their seats. President İnönü was returned at Malatya but was defeated at Ankara.

16 *May—*Mr Jelal Bayer, leader of the Democratic Party, refused President İnönü's invitation to form a Government, stating that he must await the meeting of the new Assembly before any steps could be taken.

## UNITED NATIONS

## ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE FAR EAST

16 *May—*The sixth session opened in Bangkok.

## FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION

8 *May—*The Council of the F.A.O. met in Rome.

## INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

16 *May—South-West Africa.* Hearings began on the issue of the status of South-West Africa in accordance with the General Assembly resolution of 6 December 1949 (*see vol. v, p. 841*).

## SECRETARIAT

10 *May—*Mr Trygve Lie in Prague (*see Czechoslovakia*).

11 *May—*Mr Lie in Moscow (*see U.S.S.R.*).

16 *May—Czechoslovakia.* Dr Houdek resigned his post as head of the Czechoslovak delegation and appealed to President Truman for asylum in the U.S.A. on the grounds that Czechoslovakia had ceased to be an independent State. In a cable to Mr Stalin he explained why Russian experience could not be applied indiscriminately in other countries. Addressing a press conference, he further denounced the U.S.S.R. for its pressure on east European States and spoke bitterly of the police regime in Czechoslovakia with its 'systematic distortion of news' and 'complicated systems of mutual spying'. He denied that he had ever been 'an agent of the western Powers'.



## WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

8 May—The Assembly of the Organization opened in Geneva.

UNITED STATES. 5 May—*E.R.P.* The Senate, by 47 votes to 33, voted to reduce the recovery funds for July 1950 to 30 June 1951 by \$250 m., making the amount \$2,850 m., the same figure as was authorized by the House of Representatives. Later it passed the Authorization Bill by 60 votes to 8.

U.S.S.R. The Government sent a Note to the Soviet Government replying to the latter's Note of 11 April alleging a violation of Soviet territory by a U.S. aircraft. It was a further Note to that from Washington of 18 April, and it maintained that it was impossible to resolve the issue so long as the U.S.S.R. refused to base its position upon the facts of the case. The U.S. Government warned the Soviet Government of the seriousness with which it regarded its attitude in matters of such grave consequences. The Soviet still maintained that the aircraft was 'of the B29 type' whereas the U.S. Government had already made it clear that the only American military plane in the Baltic area at the time was a U.S. Navy Privateer, unarmed, and not at any time over Soviet or Soviet-occupied territory or territorial waters.

6 May—Mr Acheson left for France by air.

Mr Liaquat Ali Khan arrived in New York to see bankers and industrial leaders and told the press that the 'Islamic Socialism' of Pakistan accepted the idea of private ownership, and he was prepared to give guarantees that foreign investors could take out dividends in dollars. Only a few industries would be nationalized.

8 May—Mr Truman, speaking at Galesburg, Illinois, said the decisions taken by the country in the months ahead would determine whether there would be a third world war. Isolationists who would 'let the rest of the world be swallowed up by Communism' could not see beyond their noses and forgot the terrible price America would have to pay for such a course. Another war would not be fought entirely on foreign soil.

Mr Acheson's statement in Paris *re* Indo China (*see France*).

*E.R.P.* Mr Truman sent to Congress the E.C.A. report for the last quarter of 1949. It showed that over \$8,500 m. had been allotted to Europe, China and Korea, besides authorizations for the procurement of goods and services of just over \$8,000 m. The total of releases for counterpart funds in local currencies amounted to \$3,500 m.

9 May—*China.* Mr Truman, speaking at Wyoming University, said the Administration was trying to find a way to distribute food in China through private agencies. The Communists, he said, 'have been heartlessly indifferent to the worst famine China has had in 100 years', and he accused them of sending to Russia food desperately needed at home.

A party of fifteen Members of the West German Parliament, visiting America on the invitation of the State Department, went to Lake Success to see the work of the United Nations.

*South-East Asia.* The State Department announced its intention to spend \$64 m. on economic aid for south-east Asia as soon as Con-

UNITED STATES (*continued*)

gressional approval was obtained, to be used during the ensuing fifteen months. Indo China would be allotted \$23 m. (These funds were quite separate from the \$75 m. available for military and economic help to the Far East and from which was to come the aid promised by Mr Acheson to France for Indo China).

10 May—Mr Acheson's speech at Pilgrims dinner and his comment on French proposals (*see Great Britain*).

*Strikes.* Eighteen thousand locomotive firemen came out on strike against four of the country's railway systems.

*Atomic Energy.* President Truman, speaking at Pocatello, Idaho, justified the use of the atomic bomb on Japan by the fact that it had made unnecessary landings which might have cost 200,000 American lives. He also emphasized the development for peaceful purposes of atomic energy.

*Expenditure.* The House of Representatives passed an omnibus Appropriations Bill of \$28,900,240,165 to meet Government departmental and agency requirements during the 1951 fiscal year. The voting was 362 to 21 and followed the adoption of an amendment cutting the total funds by \$600 m. The House also approved a plan for reducing the number of Government employees.

11 May—Opening of Foreign Ministers' Conference (*see Three-Power Conference in London*).

*Strikes.* One hundred and ten thousand railway employees became workless as a result of the firemen's strike, and fourteen coal mines in Pennsylvania were forced to close down.

It was learned that the executive committee of the U.S. Council of the International Chamber of Commerce had asked the Government to propose the establishment of a commission on commercial policy under the U.N. Economic and Social Council. It had also announced its opposition to the Havana Charter of the International Trade Organization on the grounds that it was 'obsolete and unsatisfactory'.

12 May—*Japanese War Criminals.* A Note was received from the Soviet Government protesting against the instructions issued by Gen. MacArthur on 7 March under which all Japanese war criminals might be released before the expiration of their full terms. This unilateral action violated international agreements and the order should be immediately abrogated.

*E.R.P.* Mr Hoffman, speaking before a House of Representatives committee urged U.S. ratification of the I.T.O. Charter and participation in the new body as a necessary reassurance to European businessmen and Governments against any future sudden reversal in U.S. policy on tariff and trade matters.

13 May—President Truman, speaking at Fargo, North Dakota, appealed for ratification of the I.T.O. Charter, declaring that there was no room for economic isolation in a world torn between freedom and Communist tyranny.

*Czechoslovakia.* The State Department announced that the Czechoslovak Government had been asked to close its Consulates in Cleveland

and Pittsburgh and to make a reduction in its official staff in the U.S.A. similar to that demanded of the U.S.A. in Czechoslovakia.

*E.R.P.* Mr Hoffman, speaking in New York, reaffirmed his belief that the free nations of the world were winning the cold war. After describing the progress of Europe's economic recovery he said that if this were to continue after 1952 when Marshall aid ended, Europe would have to reduce its imports from the U.S.A. by \$1,000 m. and substantially increase its exports there. Only about \$400 m. of these increased exports would be in competitive goods and this could have little effect on the U.S. economy, of which the wholesale value of production in 1949 was \$140,000 m.

14 May—President Truman, in a speech at Madison, Wisconsin, said that 'one nation' was doing everything it could, short of war, to prevent common international action and he attacked isolationism as a counsel of despair which could bring on another war.

15 May—*Foreign Aid.* The joint meeting of the Congressional committees which had been considering the Foreign Aid Bill reached agreement on a total authorization of \$3,121,450,000, including \$2,850 m. for the third year of the Marshall Plan and \$35 m. for the Point Four programme—\$10 m. less than was asked for by the Administration. U.S. investors abroad were guaranteed up to \$200 m. against expropriation or confiscation.

16 May—*Persia.* A State Department spokesman described as 'complete nonsense' charges made in a Soviet Note to Persia that the Persian Government were using U.S. experts to carry out photographic reconnaissance along the Soviet-Persian border.

*Strikes.* The railway strike ended.

Mr John Foster Dulles, Republican adviser to the State Department, proposed in a broadcast a three-point 'policy of peace insurance' for the west: a supreme western Allied military command, a top-planning staff in the U.S.A. under a Cabinet council to co-ordinate the efforts of administrative and private agencies in fighting the cold war, and a constructive U.S. bipartisan foreign policy.

17 May—Request for cut in U.S. Legation staff (*see Rumania*).

Mr Culbertson on Spanish-U.S. trade (*see Spain*).

*Argentina.* The Export-Import Bank announced that a credit of \$125 m. had been granted to Argentine banks to help liquidate Argentina's unpaid commercial debts to the U.S.A. and thus aid in restoring trade relations between the two countries.

*Under-developed Areas.* Mr Webb announced the temporary recall of the Ambassador to Nicaragua, Mr Waynick, to launch the Point Four programme.

U.S.S.R. 4 May—*Prisoners of War.* The *Tass* Agency announced that the last group of prisoners, numbering 17,538 had been repatriated to Germany, completing the process. The number of Germans sent home since May 1945 was 1,939,063, including 58,103 prisoners discovered during 1947-49 among prisoners of other nationalities who were in Russia. There remained in the Soviet Union 9,717 men condemned for

U.S.S.R. (*Continued*)

serious war crimes, and 3,815 whose crimes were being investigated.

5 May—Note from the U.S. Government *re* aircraft lost in the Baltic (see *United States*).

8 May—Gen. Chuikov, the Soviet C.-in-C. in Germany, writing in *Pravda*, said that Germany remained the key to the post-war peace settlement in Europe. Comparing conditions in the eastern and western Zones he said that whereas the Soviet authorities had laid the foundation for the restoration of the sovereignty of the German people, western Germany had been converted into a military arsenal and a springboard against the U.S.S.R. and the people's democracies.

11 May—Mr Trygve Lie, the U.N. Secretary-General, arrived in Moscow from Prague and was met by Mr Gromyko, the deputy Foreign Minister.

12 May—Note to U.S.A. on Japanese war criminals (see *United States*).

Mr Vyshinsky, Foreign Minister, received Mr Trygve Lie accompanied by Mr Zinchenko, Assistant Secretary-General in charge of Security Council affairs.

13 May—Mr Gromyko, the deputy Foreign Minister, received Mr Trygve Lie.

15 May—Mr Stalin received Mr Trygve Lie. Mr Vyshinsky and Mr Molotov were also present.

*Persia.* Moscow radio announced that a Note had been sent to the Persian Government warning them that reported plans for oil surveys in areas of northern Persia close to the Soviet frontier were 'incompatible with good neighbourly relations' laid down in the 1921 treaty between the two countries. Measures 'of military significance' were being carried out in these frontier areas, and foreigners, notably American experts, were being brought in to help.

Statement on treatment of British nationals in Russia and the satellites (see *Great Britain*).

Soviet Note requesting repatriation of Soviet citizens from France (see *France*).

16 May—*Germany.* *Tass* announced that Mr Stalin had sent a letter to Herr Grotewohl, the east German Prime Minister, stating that Russia's original claim to reparations from Germany was \$10,000 m. of which a total of \$3,658 m. in goods and services would have been received by the end of 1951. The Government were now prepared, after agreement with the Polish Government, to forgo half of the outstanding claim, leaving a total of \$3,171 m. still to be delivered. These deliveries, beginning in 1951, would continue to be made until the end of 1965 from current production.

*China.* Mr Trygve Lie received the Chinese Ambassador in Moscow.

17 May—Mr Trygve Lie told a press conference that he was not dissatisfied with his Moscow talks, though it might not be possible to arrive at a final judgment for several months. His discussions had been concentrated on the general international situation, including Chinese representation in the United Nations, the "cold war" and the control

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of atomic energy. He had also given Mr Stalin his views on the desirability of calling periodic meetings of the Security Council at the level of the Foreign Ministers.

VATICAN CITY. 4 May—The Czechoslovak Legation was closed, and the only two officials still in residence left Rome without informing the Vatican.

VENEZUELA. 13 May—The Government issued a decree outlawing the Communist Party.

WEST INDIES. 11 May—*Jamaica*. It was learned that the estimates for the current financial year tabled in the Jamaica Legislature provided for expenditure of £10,459,132 with a deficit of £358,288. The year 1949–50 ended with a deficit of £297,790 leaving a reduced accumulated surplus as at 1 April 1950 of £1,438,442.

*Leeward Islands*. Lord Baldwin's resignation and appointment of Mr Blackburne (*see Great Britain*).

WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS. 10 May—A W.F.T.U. Congress opened in Budapest.

15 May—Withdrawal of Yugoslavia from the organization (*see Yugoslavia*).

YUGOSLAVIA. 9 May—*Soviet Peace Slogans*. *Borba*, the official Communist organ published a leader attacking Soviet policy as 'essentially imperialistic' and said the insincerity of slogans for peace was evident in the Russian propaganda campaign against Yugoslavia and its economic blockade and war-mongering speeches.

14 May—*Trieste*. In a radio interview recorded in Belgrade and broadcast in Italy Marshal Tito said that Yugoslavia had no intention of annexing Zone B of Trieste but that the zone must be opened for better economic development with Yugoslavia.

15 May—Decision to set up two joint commissions with Greece (*see Greece*).

It was announced that the Yugoslav United Trade Union Council had withdrawn from the World Federation of Trade Unions.

16 May—During a debate in a foreign affairs committee of the National Assembly, Mr Dedijer, the Minister of Information and secretary of the committee, spoke of renewed Soviet troop movements near the Yugoslav frontiers following recent anti-Yugoslav speeches in Budapest and Prague by Marshals Voroshilov and Bulganin. A suggestion that the question of discrimination in Cominform countries against Yugoslav diplomatists be brought before an international body was referred to a special committee. Mr Kardelj, Foreign Minister, said that though the Government would continue to try to establish normal relations with the Cominform they might have to take counter-measures. Referring to improved relations with Greece he said that Yugoslavia would now make every effort to solve the question of the

YUGOSLAVIA (*continued*)

return of the Greek children, in accordance with the U.N. resolution. If basic minority rights were granted to Greek Macedonians the complete normalization of Yugoslav-Greek relations would be facilitated. Replying to questions on Trieste he said the problem could not be solved by direct negotiation. Cession of the Yugoslav Zone to Italy could not be the basis for agreement.

It was learned that a recent article in *Borba* had announced that Mr D. M. Dimitrievic, a Yugoslav citizen who had lived for many years in Czechoslovakia, and who in recent years had been chairman of the Yugoslav People's Front organization in that country, had died in prison at the end of April after several months of torture and ill-treatment at the hands of the Czech police.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- |       |    |  |
|-------|----|--|
| June  | —  | International Socialist Conference, Copenhagen.  |
| "     | 1  | Trusteeship Council, seventh session, Lake Success.  |
| "     | 1  | Meeting of International Shipping Federation, Scheveningen, Holland.                       |
| "     | 4  | General Election in Belgium.   |
| "     | 7  | I.L.O. Conference, Geneva.   |
| "     | 8  | Seventh Imperial Press Conference, Ottawa.   |
| "     | 13 | Council of the International Chamber of Commerce, Paris.                                   |
| "     | 18 | Pan American Sanitary Bureau and inter-American Hospital Association, Rio de Janeiro.      |
| "     | 26 | Caribbean Commission, tenth meeting, Martinique.   |
| July  | 1  | African Labour Conference, Elizabethville.   |
| "     | 3  | Economic and Social Council, eleventh session, Geneva.                                     |
| "     | 10 | Fourth Plenary World Power Conference, London.   |
| Aug.  | 7  | Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe, Strasbourg.                                |
| Sept. | —  | Meeting of Commonwealth Consultation Committee on economic aid to south-east Asia, London. |
| "     | 6  | Fifth annual meeting of the Board of Governors of the International Bank.                  |
| "     | 6  | Fifth annual meeting of the Board of Governors of the International Monetary Fund.         |
| "     | 28 | International Tariff Negotiations, Torquay.  |
| Oct.  | —  | Presidential Election, Brazil.   |
| "     | 5  | Conference of Institute of Pacific Relations, Lucknow.                                     |
| "     | 15 | General Election, eastern Germany.   |
| Nov.  | 7  | Congressional Elections—U.S.A.   |